

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing collagen production, comprising
administering a composition to a living body, comprising said composition being prepared by a step of mixing (i) an isolated saccharide derivative of L-ascorbic acid, and (ii) ~~one or more members selected from the group consisting of an isolated~~ 10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid, ~~10-hydroxydecanoic acid, decanoic acid, 2-decenoic acid, and sebacic acid, as fatty acids~~ to enhance the collagen production by (i), and (iii) a physiologically acceptable carrier, to a living body, said composition being free of gluconic acid but containing (i) in an amount of at least 0.01% (w/w), in terms of the weight of L-ascorbic acid in said isolated saccharide derivative of L-ascorbic acid, to the total weight of said composition, and (ii) in an amount of at least 0.0001 part by weight to one part by weight of (i), in terms of the weight of L-ascorbic acid in said isolated saccharide derivative of L-ascorbic acid.

Claims 18-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the saccharide derivative of L-ascorbic acid is selected from the group consisting of L-ascorbic acid 2-glucoside and L-ascorbic acid 2-glycoside; inorganic salts thereof, organic salts thereof, and esters thereof.

Claims 21-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said composition further contains one or more members selected from the group consisting of chondroitin, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, heparin, heparan sulfate, keratan sulfate, hyaluronic acid, and mixtures thereof.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the composition is a food product, health food, or food for special use.

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein the composition is in the form of a cosmetic.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the composition is in the form of a pharmaceutical or quasi-drug.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the composition is in the form of a feed, bait or pet food.

31. (Currently Amended) A composition for enhancing collagen production, ~~comprising said composition being prepared by a step of mixing (i) an isolated~~ saccharide derivative of L-ascorbic acid, ~~and (ii) one or more members selected from the group consisting of an isolated 10-hydroxy-2-decenoic acid, 10-hydroxydecanoic acid, decanoic acid, 2-decenoic acid, and sebacic acid, as fatty acids to enhance the collagen production by (i), and (iii) a physiologically acceptable carrier, said composition being free of gluconic acid but~~ containing (i) in an amount of at least 0.01% (w/w), in terms of the weight of L-ascorbic acid in said isolated saccharide derivative of L-ascorbic acid, to the total weight of said composition, and (ii) in an amount of at least 0.0001 part by weight to one part by weight of (i), in terms of the weight of L-ascorbic acid in said isolated saccharide derivative of L-ascorbic acid.

32. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 31, which further contains a glycosaminoglycan selected from the group consisting of chondroitin, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, heparin, heparan sulfate, keratan sulfate, hyaluronic acid, and mixtures thereof.